A Looking-Glass FOR KING-OPPOSERS,

OR,

Twenty Admirable Examples of Gods Severe Justice and Displeasure against the SUBSCRIBERS of the late ENGAGEMENT against our Lawfull SOVERAIGN

King CHARLES the II.

And the whole

HOUSE of PEERS:

In these words,

I do declare and promise, that I will be True and Faithfull to the Common wealth of England as it is now established, without a KING *or House of* LORDS.

Also against some of the Judges of the late KING in the High Court of INJUSTICE.

Eccles. 10. 20. *Curse not the King, no not in thy thought. God hath Woollen feet, but Iron hands.* Aug.

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The Weſtminſterian Engagement.

January 2. 1649.

I Doe Declare and promiſe, that I will be true and faithfull to the Common-wealth of England, as it is now eſtabliſhed without a King or Houſe of Lords.

The ſumme or ſubſtance of the penalty of not ſubſcribing it.

BE it enacted by Authority of Parliament, that whatſoever perſon or perſons ſhall refuſe the taking or ſubſcribing of this Engagement, ſhall be diſabled to hold or enjoy any Place or Office of publique truſt, profit, or employment whatſoever; And that if he do continue therein without any ſuch ſubſcription as aforeſaid, contrary to this Act of Parliament; he ſhall forfeit all ſuch offices, places or employment and profits whatſoever; and ſhall forfeit alſo double the value of ſuch profits and benefits as they ſhall have received and taken as aforeſaid: And for default of diſtreſſe and ſale of ſuch offenders goods, the offender to be impriſoned, till the ſaid

forfeitures be fully ſatisfied and paid. And it is further enacted and declared, that all and every perſon or perſons ſo offending as aforeſaid, is, are and ſhall be uncapable of Voting or giving his ſuffrage or conſent in the choice or election of any Officer or Magiſtrate in the City of *London* or elſe where, within the Common-wealth of *England*. And ſhall alſo be uncapable of the benefit of Law from any Courts of Juſtice of this Commonwealth, in any manner of Plea whatſoever, between Plaintiff and Defendant, in or for any Suit, Plaint, Bill, Action, Information, Writ, Demand, Execution, or any other proceſſe whatſoever, except onely in caſe of Treaſon, Felony, or breach of the peace and good behaviour.

The Obſervation on this Penalty, for non-ſubſcribing the Engagement.

THe ſum of the aforeſaid penalty, amounting to thus much, that every perſon whatſoever, that ſubſcribes not their Engagement, is made an abſolute Out-lawed perſon, unable to help himſelf, or to be holpen by any, againſt any wrongs or injuries whatſoever, done to his perſon or eſtate, except as before, by them excepted. Such a cruelty and tyranny as never was heard of in this Kingdome, nor in any Nation, or well governed State, or Common-wealth in Chriſtendome; eſpecially to be enacted or executed upon any of their Natives, or free Denizens, though never ſo foul or hainous offenders (much leſſe upon their pious, peaceable and moſt honeſt people) ſave onely among the Antichriſtian Romaniſts, againſt thoſe whom they call and counted Hereticks.

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Wherefore ſince the Saints godly party at Weſtminſter (*as they moſt audaciouſly and falſly call themſelves*) *and all the reſt of their moſt hypocriticall adherents have been ſo bold thus to ſet up this* Dagon *by Gods Ark, and their poſts by Gods poſts, and ſo deceitfully to glory and triumph in their pretended Providences and ſucceſſes, ever ſince their, thus, ſetting up this* Dagon, *the* Weſtminſterian *Engagement, in oppoſition to the Nationall Covenant. I ſhall here, now* (*therefore*) *give the godly and impartiall Reader, divers moſt remarkable examples, and apparent Demonſtrations of Gods evident and eminent wrath and indignation, expreſſed againſt them ever ſince their ſetting up their ſaid* Dagon, *in theſe moſt memorable and remarkable examples, following:*

Twenty admirable examples of Gods diſpleaſure againſt Subſcribers of the Engagement, and complices with the late Power.

1. THen conſider, admire and wonder, that upon the very firſt day of the publication of the Act for taking the Engagement, which was *January* 4. 1650. in the evening of that ſame day, did that moſt terrible and fearfull fire by Gun-powder break forth at *Barkin*-Church, neer the Tower of *London*, the like to which was never ſeen or heard of before, in or about the ſaid City, in which were moſt ſuddenly blown up and deſtroyed above a hundred houſes, and above 120. perſons moſt lamentably kill'd and deſtroyed, and their Carkaſes miſerably torn in pieces; among whom was Lievtenant Col. *Smith*, one of Sir *Hardreſs Wallers* chief ſticklers, to pull the ſecluded members out of the Houſe of Commons in Parliament. And was not this a moſt fearfull fore-

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runner and heavy Harbinger of the wofull effects of this their immediately following Engagements.

2. One Mr. *Moſſy* Miniſter of in *Eſſex* having taken the engagement (and that in his own ſenſe and limitations, to his beſt content, as he thought) yet was immediately after ſo perplexed and diſtracted in his Conſcience, that he could neither Preach nor Pray, nor be at any quiet or peace within himſelf, till he had procured liberty to race out his name from under the Engagement: whereunto he had ſubſcribed it.

3. One Col. *Ruſſell*, a great favourite and Commiſſioner in the Army, after his taking of the Engagement, was ſo vexed and diſtracted in his ſoule, that he confeſſed to ſome of his religious friends (himſelf alſo being lookt upon as a very religious Gentleman) that immediately upon his taking the Engagement, he found by evident ſymptomes, that the Devil took actuall poſſeſſion of him, and made him deſperately prone to commit any notorious villany whatſoever, even to the raviſhing of his own maid-ſervant; but afterward gave moſt eminent teſtimonies of his true repentance, and abhorrence of his taking of it.

4. One Mr. *Edward Fiſher*, a very tender conſcienceous Chriſtian, and godly Citizen of *London*, in the *Old-baily*, having taken the Engagement, and though in his own ſenſe and limitations (as he thought to his full content) yet preſently after, being extreamly grieved and perplexed in ſpirit, for that he had done, therein laboured to Alderman *Allen* to have his name raced out, but could not be permitted, to the increaſe of his great grief; and thereupon fell into great diſtreſſes and trouble of Conſcience, and into pyning and languiſhing ſickneſſe, caught a great fall in his houſe, which put his ſhoul-

der

9. One Sir *Thomas Martin*, Knight of *Cambridge-shire*, an Engager and a great Complyer with the times, having been a hunting in *Holmby-Park*, and the Deer being slain, stuck and opened, and he desired (together with the other Gentlemen) to wash his hands in the Deers blood; No (said he) I had rather wash my hands in the blood *of the young King of Scots*. And immediately after this, riding home the same Day at Evening, his Horse very suddenly and violently threw him, in which fall, he pitch't on his head, mortally brake his Skull, and shoulder, of which wounds he very shortly after died.

10. The Constable of *Shaw* in *Lancashire*, four miles from *Manchester*, having taken the Engagement, was presently after so perplexed in Conscience, that notwithstanding all the Godly Exhortations, and Comforts administred unto him by godly neighbour Ministers, yet the apprehension of Gods wrath; for what he had done therein, so increased upon him, that he fell distracted, and so continued many weeks together.

11. Also one M. *Rich. Smith* Minister of *Stoke*, Prior in *Worcestershire*, having taken the Engagement for the procuring of an Augmentation to his Living, returning home from *London* after he had taken it, fell presently into such a *frighting horrour of Conscience and Distraction of his Senses, that he had oft endeavoured to beat out his own brains*; But at last recovered his Sences by Gods great mercy repented bitterly of what he had done, and thereupon in peace departed this life in a sickness which then took him.

12. Dr. *Dorislaus*, the *Westminsterians* Junto's first

Embaſſadour, ſent from them into *Holland*, and therefore no doubt a great Engager, and deſperate Complyer in all things with them, as in the Kings death; being arrived in *Holland*, was therein immediately and ſuddenly aſſaulted and murthered as he ſate at dinner in his houſe.

13. Alſo Mr. *Anthony Aſcham*, a Gentleman of excellent parts, being ſent (as the Juncto's the Embaſſador) into *Spain*, very ſhortly after his arrival there at *Madrid*, was in his own houſe there ſuddenly and moſt furiouſly ſet upon and aſſaulted, by divers deſperate *Engliſh* Caviliers, and he and his Interpreter was then and there murthered.

14. Collonel *Rainsborow*, a mighty Engager and prime ſtickler for the power at *Weſtminſter*, a deſperate header of the Levellers, & Admiral of the Navy at Sea, was ſuddenly alſo aſſaulted by a company of Caviliers at *Pomfrait* town in *Yorkſhire* in an Inne, and there murthered by them.

15. Mr. *Tho. Hoyle*, formerly lookt upon as a very pious and ſtrictly religious Gentleman, an Alderman of *York*, and Member of the Parliament, but afterward having taken the Engagement even againſt his conſcience, and turned a great complyer with them at *Weſtminſter*: Not long after, it pleaſed the Lord ſo to leave him to himſelf, that on the very ſame day 12 moneth, that King *Charles* was beheaded, yea as near as poſſible could be judged about the very ſame houre of that day this Gentleman hang'd himſelf in his own houſe at *Weſtminſter*, and was found ſtark dead by his woeful wife when ſhe came home, having been abroad that morning.

16. Mr. *Shereman* a Citizen and Silkman in *Pater-Noster-Row* in *London*, who had formerly been lookt on as a godly and religious Gentleman, had been a Tryer and an Elder in the Presbyterian Church Government, a singular good friend to Mr. *Love*; then his Pastour; but afterward he turning with the times took the Engagement, and that in form of an Oath, whereupon he was made a Common Council man, turn'd a desperate enemy, and hater of the said M. *Love*; who shortly after being in his shop with his wife, as perfectly well as ever ever in his life, yet in the Evening standing at his counter in his shop, and his wife close by him, he suddenly sunk down by her stark dead, and never spake one word after it.

17. Also Collonel *Ven* a Citizen of *London*, formerly a great Professor of Religion, and a long time Mr. *Love*'s precious dear friend, and a Member of the House of Commons in Parliament; but being turned with the times, was a great Engager and mighty stickler for, and with them at *Westminster*; yea, he proved afterwards a most bitter enemy to the *Presbyterian Ministers* of *London*, and upon occasion used those words against them, *Viz. They at VVestminster should never be at quiet, till they had provided a pair of shooes and a staffe for the turbulent Presbyterian Ministers of* London, *and banisht them out of the Kingdom*: But it pleased the Lord, that on the very next day after that horrible abuse and banishment done to Mr. *Jenkin* then Minister of *Christ-Church* *London*, in both sequestring him out of his said Living, and banishing him out of the City, wherein this Coll. *Ven* had a hand also, and had most churlishly carried himself toward Master *Jenkin* in the Commit-

tee even that day, whereon this godly Minister was so censured, which was *July* the 6. 1650. being *Thursday*. It pleased the Lord, I say, that Master *Yen* next *Friday* following, *July* 7. and at night, this Coll. going to bed, as perfectly well and in health, as ever in his life, and his wife lying by him, he fell asleep by her immediately, and slept soundly without any complaint of the least distemper, but the next morning about 6. of the clock his wife awaking, found him starke dead by her in the bed, never having made the least groan, or spoken one word to her since the day before. And thus God banished him first out of the Land of the Living.

18. One Sir *Henry Holcroft*, why had formerly been a great Professour of Religion, and to see too a practiser of the power of Godlyness, but afterwards drew back and Apostatized to the *Independent* Faction, took the Engagement, and fell into great complyance with them, being a Committee Gentleman, and acting strenuously for them. But immediatly after this, it pleased the Lord, that he fell into a sore disease, and much and often bleeding at his nose and mouth, and so continued all the time of his said sinful complyance with them, and at last fell into such fits of extreme bleedding, and strongly vomiting up even of gobbets of blood at his mouth, and flowing out of blood at his nose with such unstintable violence, that he most sadly departed this Life, in one of the extreme fits thereof.

19. In *August* 1650. *Barron Rigby*, a most desperate Enemy to the *Presbyterians Church Discipline*, as being a great *Independent* together with Baron *Yates*, the two Judges

ges for the Assizes then held at *Chalmsford* in *Essex*, two grand Engagers (as every one may know) and deep complyers *with the Westminsterian power*: They both being at *Chalimford*, and hearing the Assize Sermon preacht before them, the Godly Ministers Text being out of *Luke* the 16. 2. *Give an account of thy Stewardship, for thou maist be no longer Steward.* Immediately after this Sermon, it pleased the Lord to strike Judge *Rigby* with present sickness, so as that they could not keep the Assizes there, but were forced to adjourn it, promising and hoping to come again and finish it there, and went thence to *Croydon* in *Surry* to hold the Assizes there; but having begun to sit, both Judge *Rigby* his sickness so increased upon him, and the like sickness suddenly so assaulted Judge *Yates* also, and with such violent pain and great distemper upon them both, and also upon the High Sheriffe of *Surry* then present with them, who also was smitten with the same sickness, at that time that the Assizes was enforced to cease there also, and they all three were speedily conveyed away thence to *London*, where they all three died immediatly after, even within a seven nights space, or thereabout, of a most violent pestilential Fever; and very many more of their Clerks, Officers, and Attendants on the said Assizes died also at the same time, (as was generally, and most credibly informed and reported, and I my self know one Captain *Hindely*, one of Judge *Rigby*'s chief Clerks or Officers (who died at the same time) immediately upon the very same time of these Judges death. A most remarkable and fearful Example of Gods wrath upon Engagers and sinful Complyers with workers of iniquity.

quity, *VVoe unto therefore to all Apoſtatizing Temporizers, and perfidious Backſliders*, Heb. 10. 38. And as is further moſt evident in thoſe Scriptures, beneath following.

20. I ſhall conclude all with the memorable Example of Gods Divine *Juſtice* upon *Lockyer*, an Active *Agitator* and *Leveller* in the *Army*, who had a principal hand in ſeiſing and bringing the King to his death, Cried out, *Juſtice, Juſtice, Juſtice*, openly againſt him, and ſpit in the Kings face in *VVeſtminſter-Hall* as he was going to his Tryal, before his condemnation, Conducted him to the Block; and was ſhortly after condemned in a Counſel of War by ſome of the Kings own Judges, and ſhot to death as a Mutinier in *Pauls-Church-yard London*. Alſo *John Lilburn*'s double Tryal for his life; ſoon after, a grand ſtickler againſt the Houſe of Lords: The proceedings againſt *Saxbey*, *Syndercombe*, and other *Levellers*, who were chief Inſtruments to bring the King to Juſtice; and the Grand Oppoſers of the Houſe of Lords: Alſo the Impriſonments and ſufferings of *M. G. Harriſon*, Collonel *Rich*, Collonel *Okey*, Lord *Grey* of *Grooby*, and others of the Kings condemners, who were all Engagers againſt the *King and Houſe of Lords*.

May it not awaken the ſtupid ſeared Conſciences of all thoſe now living, who had any hand in theſe Tragedies and Engagements *againſt King and Parliament*, to bring them to ſpeedy and ſincere publick Repentance for them; Leſt they fall into the like *Terrors or Judgements*, as others that have ſo wilfully ingaged againſt King and Houſe of Lords?

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Unto this I ſhall onely add two Queries.

WHether thoſe perſons that are living, that took upon themſelves the Name, Stile, and Title of the Parliament *of* England, Scotland *and* Ireland, (*though by their Writs by which they Sate, they were but the fragments of the* Parliament *of* England *only*) *beheaded their* Lawful Proteſtant King, *baniſhed his Poſterity, overturning our antient Government it ſelf, Conſiſting of King, Lords and Commons, which Conſtitution continued many hundreds of years, and was the beſt and fitteſt for theſe* Nations *that could be, and brought the* Nation *into ſuch a Labyrinth and Confuſion, by endeavouring to ſet up an* Utopian *Common-wealth, a mere New-Nothing; VVhether the perſons may not juſtly fear they may fall down Quick into Hell, or fall into the ſame Exemplary Terrors, Judgements, and ſelf Executions with others, if they repent not for their Abominations.*

2. *VVhether Theſe men that ſet aſide and repealed the Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance as* unlawful Oaths, *which themſelves took, or ought to take before they ſate in the Commons Houſe; and alſo the Proteſtation, Solemne* League *and Covenant made in Purſuance of them, and Diametrically contrary to theſe Oaths, to ſet up a New Engagement, to which every one muſt Subſcribe to be true and faithful to their New Common-wealth, without King or Houſe of* Lords, *bringing all* Engliſh *Freemen into a New Premunire, which thouſands of our Godly Proteſtant Miniſters, Gentry and Freemen refuſed to take; whether theſe men that can ſwallow all kind of Oaths, though directly contrary one to the other; Neither reverence God or Man, are fit perſons to be Truſtees for the* Nation *in this Time of Eminent Danger, now the* Nation *groans under ſo many Oppreſſions and Dangers.*

Heb.

Hebrewes 6. 4. 5. 6.

It is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the Heavenly Gifts, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good Word of God, and the Powers of the World to come; If they fall away, to renew them again to repentance; seeing they crucifie to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

Jude 11. 12.

Woe to them, for they have gone in the way of Cain, and perished in the gainsaying of Core. They are Trees whose fruits withered, Trees dead and plucked up by the roots.

FINIS.